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MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

State Office Building
350 Ottawa N. W.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503


US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



502537

February 5, 1986

TO: Files

FROM: Bonnie White, Groundwater Quality Division 

SUBJECT: Plainfield (10 Mile/North Kent) Landfill
November 8, 1985 Meeting Between Kent County DPW & MDNR

Present at the meeting were Curt Kempainen, Jerry Powell, Dave Despres, John DeWitt for Kent County DPW; Ron Zellar, Attorney General's Office; Gary Marx, Environmental Enforcement Division; and Gerry Heyt, Bonnie White, Grand Rapids Groundwater Quality Division.

Zellar stated that we were awaiting a hearing date and that the meeting was to determine if there had been any changes in the County's position. Powell presented an update of the work done on-site since the last meeting. Several more permanent and temporary wells have been installed to track the contaminants. Eight of ten wells were clean, two of ten were not. The northeast most well has contaminants in the ppb range. More wells are planned for near the leachate ponds which are suspected of contributing contaminants to the groundwater in their vicinity. New wells along the east side are 20 meters east of the underdrain. Drilling activities are nearly complete but additional sampling is needed. Additional sampling, including possibly some pump tests and data analyses, are needed to complete the hydrogeologic study. Remedial plans are already being made for the leachate pond area. The County hopes to phase out the ponds as a source of contaminants.

A suspected source of contamination for Well 47 is the scale pit. Soils between the pit and MW 47 had a definite odor. Well 47 is pumped continuously into Outfall 007. The discharge is not covered directly by a permit although Outfall 007 is permitted.

The County maintained that June 1987 was still the proposed closure date. Kempainen stated that the environmental gain from closing the site now would not offset the economic loss. Adding more waste would not change the final outcome. As per DeWitt, large volumes of soils would have to be brought in to achieve the final grades desired. The County was not receptive to the suggestion of redesigning the site for early closure. Winter is a

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slow time; fewer wastes come in which delays the achieving of the desired grades. The northeast half of the site is at grade and has about a foot of clay in place. The Wolverine sludge area is closed and covered.

Some changes have been made to the waste treatment system. Staff has been increased. The County's contract with the Grand Rapids WWTP will expire on November 10, 1985. More treatment will be needed but the County wants to wait until June 1987 to design and size the system. Some pilot studies for wastewater treatment have been done.

The Department position that a June 1987 closure was unacceptable was restated. Heyt outlined what was needed in a closure plan including a schedule for completion of the hydrogeologic work, and an approvable remedial plan and implementation timetable. DeWitt indicated that the County would come up with a proposal. A schedule for the hydrogeologic report completion would be forthcoming soon.

BLW/mam